DIEV ET MON DROIT

By the King.

¶ A Proclamation declaring His Maiesties grace to His Subiects for their reliefe against publique Grieuances.

THE Kings most Excellent Maiesty, calling to His remembrance the many complaints in the late conuention of Parliament, aswell by sundry of the House of Commons, as by others His Subiects of seuerall parts of this Realme, not onely against Monopolies and other like Patents, but also concerning many other grieuances, some touching the administration of Iustice, and excessiue Fees taken in His Maiesties Courts; others concerning Trade and Commerce, and many others of seuerall natures and qualities: And His Maiestie (desiring aboue all things, to yeeld ease and comfort to His people) by memorable examples of Iustice, and also by sundry Proclamations, Commissions, and other Actes, and Orders made by himselfe, and His Priuie Counsell, not only sitting the Parliament, and in the times of the adiournement thereof, but also since the dissoluing and breaking vp of the same, hath fully declared His earnest affection and constant resolution to prouide fitting remedies for all those euils, which may tend to the hurt of His people. And more especially calling to minde, That by His Royall Proclamation, dated the tenth day of July, in the nineteenth yeere of His Reigne, He did publish and declare, That both His owne, and the eares of His Priuie Councell should be open to the modest and iust complaints of his people, aswell concerning Monopolies, and other Patents of euill nature and consequence, as concerning other grieuances against the publique; His Maiestie continuing the same his Gracious and Princely disposition, which is not confined vnto Times and Meetings in Parliament, but at all seasons, and vpon all occasions watcheth ouer the publique weale of his Kingdomes, hath (for the remouing of all ambiguities and doubts, which might discourage and deterre his people from taking holde of that his Princely offer, as though in his Maiesties intention it were limited or restrained to any certain times, or to particular grieuances) thought fit hereby againe to inuite his Subiects to imbrace his gracious and Princely fauour, for the releeuing of them in whatsoeuer their iust grieuances, and that in a more easie and ready way then hath beene propounded at any time heretofore; not doubting but his louing subiects (well weighing his abundant goodnesse and care towards them) will apply themselues vnto his Maiestie for their

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reliefe, in such a modest and temperate course, as may tend to the glory of his gouernment, their owne weale and tranquillitie, and the vtter abolishing of all those priuate whisperings and causelesse rumors, proceeding from particular humor, which, without giuing to his Maiestie any opportunitie of reformation by particular knowledge of any fault, serue to no other purpose but to occasion and blow abroad discontentment. And therefore his Maiestie doeth hereby publish and declare, That hee hath appointed George, Marquesse of Buckingham, Lord high Admirall of England, Thomas, Earle of Arundell and Surrey, Earle Marshall of England, William, Earle of Pembroke, Lord Chamberlaine of his Maiesties houshold, Lancelot, Bishop of Winchester, and William, Bishop of S. Dauid, select and principall persons, authorising and requiring them, or any two or more of them, to sit once a weeke, at least, at his Maiesties Palace of Whitehall, to receiue the petitions and complaints of his louing Subiects concerning their iust grieuances, and to certifie the same to himselfe, or his Priuie Counsell, as shalbe fittest for due redresse: wherein his Maiestie doeth declare, That as it is not his intent, that matters of ordinary nature or consequence should be drawen thither, but left to the proper Courts of Iustice, which haue conusance thereof: So his Maiesty doeth not restraine their complaints to any particular sort of grieuances, but is well pleased that his Subiects may freely resort thither, for any notable oppression, exaction, bribery, or other grieuance, where the quality of the offence, or eminencie of the person, or office of the offendour may require an extraordinarie proceeding. Neuertheless, his Maiestie doeth admonish, that vnder colour thereof, no man presume to present there any causelesse clamours, which if they shall doe, they must expect to be punished with the same seuerity, which their complaints aymed and endeauoured vniustly to draw on others.

Giuen at the Court at Theobalds, the foureteenth day of February, in the twentieth yeere of Our Reigne of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God saue the King.

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